Module 8 - Assessment matrix for "Children"

Government strategy

Government of Coresia aims at providing basic primary and secondary education (up till the 9th grade) and basic nutrition for all children through cash or in-kind transfers (National Five Year Plan (2012–16))

Existing provisions

Private sector employees: annual allowance per child under CCE

Civil servants, police, military, veterans: annual allowance per child and subsidy for tuition fees under CSCEP

All children: free compulsory education (FEP) for children from kindergarten till the 9th grade in government-run schools

Poor households: distribution of fortified mix of cereals and grains to pregnant women and mothers with children up to 4 years of age (CMN) and various NGO-led programmes

Policy gaps

FEP does not cover cost of textbooks, uniforms, food, travel to school

Scattered and unsustainable NGO-based programmes leading to inequities and exclusion

CMN is funded by WFP and needs to be funded by Government revenues to ensure sustainability

Implementation issues

Frequent out-of-pocket payments to school principals and teachers, in rural and remote area schools

Poor quality of teaching and infrastructure in rural areas

Lack of awareness of the FEP among remote households

Foreign languages, such as English, and ICT courses are not taught in rural schools

Overcrowded orphanages where poor children are sent to reduce the financial burden on their families

CMN programme is still in pilot phase in a few provinces only

Recommendations¹

- (*) R1 Explore the cost of providing an annual non-contributory allowance of COD3,000 to COD4,000 to poor and near poor children to complement FEP
- (Δ) R2 Introduce a legal framework for consolidating and formalizing NGO-led schemes
- (Δ) R3 Explore possibility of funding CMN through Government revenues and expanding the programme to more provinces
- (Δ) R4 Increase salaries of school principals and teachers in government-run schools or establish a compulsory civil service for all newly graduated teachers to serve for three years in remote areas
- (Δ) R5 Implement a monitoring and inspection system for schools and conduct interviews with beneficiary families
- (Δ) R6 Increase awareness of the FEP among remote and rural households
- (Δ) R7 Introduce basic teaching of a foreign language in rural schools as well as a course on ICT
- (*) R8 Calculate the cost of transforming the "Midday meal scheme" into a national programme

¹ Two types of recommendations were formed: (*) designates the provision of additional SPF benefits or increase of coverage; cost of these can be calculated using RAP; (Δ) designates requirement for detailed studies; can be implemented through specific TC projects.